

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6356

BILL NUMBER: SB 15

DATE PREPARED: Nov 16, 1998

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Juvenile court magistrates.

FISCAL ANALYST: Susan Preble

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FUNDS AFFECTED: ☒ **GENERAL**
☐ **DEDICATED**
☐ **FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State & Local

STATE IMPACT	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
State Revenues			
State Expenditures		791,829	791,829
Net Increase (Decrease)		(791,829)	(791,829)

LOCAL IMPACT	CY 1999	CY 2000	CY 2001
Local Revenues			
Local Expenditures	(385,981)	(771,963)	(771,963)
Net Increase (Decrease)	385,981	771,963	771,963

Summary of Legislation: This bill repeals a provision authorizing the judge of the juvenile court in a county with a population of more than 50,000 to appoint one or more full-time magistrates. It replaces the repealed law with provisions authorizing certain courts in Allen County, Elkhart County, Johnson County, Lake County, Marion County, Porter County, Vanderburgh County, and Vigo County to appoint magistrates. It repeals statutes requiring counties to pay part of the salary of a full-time magistrate. It also allows juvenile court magistrates appointed under the repealed provisions to continue as magistrates.

Effective Date: July 1, 1999.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill will increase state expenditures by \$791,829 in FY 2000 and FY 2001 by requiring the State to assume the county share of juvenile court magistrate salaries and fringe

benefits for eight counties. Juvenile court magistrates are court officers who are under the appointment of the judge of the juvenile court in counties with a population of 50,000 or more. Per IC 33-4-7-9, magistrates are entitled to an annual salary equal to 80% of the \$90,000 salary of a judge. While juvenile magistrates are paid the same as general court magistrates, current law requires the county to pay \$41,393 while the State pays the balance of the salary.

The table below illustrates the additional cost to the State if it assumes the county share of the current sixteen juvenile magistrates' salaries and fringe benefits. Fringe benefits are calculated as a percentage of salary, and include life insurance, social security, PERF and disability insurance. The fringe benefit rate for FY 2000 and FY 2001 is 19.56%. Health insurance for the magistrates is already being paid by the State at a flat rate of \$4,852 and is not included in the fringe benefit rates.

County	# of Juvenile Magistrate	Added Salary Cost to the State	Added Fringe Benefit Cost to the State	Total Additional Cost to the State (Salary + Fringe)
Allen	3	\$124,179	\$24,289	\$148,468
Elkhart	1	\$41,393	\$8,096	\$49,489
Johnson	1	\$41,393	\$8,096	\$49,489
Lake	4	\$165,572	\$32,386	\$197,958
Marion	4	\$165,572	\$32,386	\$197,958
Porter	1	\$41,393	\$8,096	\$49,489
Vanderburgh	1	\$41,393	\$8,096	\$49,489
Vigo	1	\$41,393	\$8,096	\$49,489
Total:	16	\$662,288	\$129,541	\$791,829

Assuming the State picks up the county share of the fringe benefits and salary costs for just the sixteen juvenile magistrates in the table above, the additional cost to the state would be \$791,829 in FY 2000 and FY 2001.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: This bill will decrease county expenditures by requiring the State to assume the county share of juvenile court magistrate salaries and fringe benefits for sixteen juvenile magistrates in eight counties. **The decrease in county expenditures in salary and fringe benefit costs for the sixteen magistrates is estimated to be \$385,981 in CY 1999 and \$771,963 in CY 2000 and CY 2001.**

Currently, each county is required to pay \$41,393 of each magistrate's salary, while the State pays the balance. This bill is effective July 1, 1999, which requires that the \$41,393 be divided in half to reflect the last six months of CY 1999. The fringe benefit rates are slightly lower for the counties because the counties have been paying all fringe benefits except for the 3% PERF share. The local fringe benefit rates are calculated at 16.56% for CY 1999 and 16.56% in CY 2000 and CY 2001 for the county portion of the salaries. The fringe benefit rate for local government is lower than the rate for the State and this explains the

difference in full year impacts for state expenditure increase and local expenditure decrease.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Allen, Elkhart, Johnson, Lake, Marion, Porter, Vanderburgh, and Vigo County trial courts.

Information Sources: IC 33-4-7-9; State Budget Agency; Division of State Court Administration.